

**Roadmap for Ph.D. Atmospheric Sciences**  
**Department of Atmospheric Sciences**  
**College of Natural Science and Mathematics**  
**University of Alaska Fairbanks**

**Year 1**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
ATM 601 (Required by all) ATM 613 (Core) Thesis/Research Credits	ATM 615 (Core) ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits	Submit first peer review paper to integrate thesis.

**Year 2**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
ATM 645 (Core) ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits	ATM 646 (Core) ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits	Take written comprehensive exam after taking all five core courses.

**Year 3**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits	ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits	Submit second and third peer review paper to integrate thesis.

**Year 4**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits Last semester for thesis proposal	ATM elective classes Thesis/Research Credits Defend PhD thesis	

1. **Five Core courses required** (See MS list). All core courses except for ATM601 are taught in a two-year cycle, i.e., depending on in which semester/year a student enters the program they either start with the core courses of year 1 or 2. The course program starts out with ATM 601 in the fall of the year they entered the program.
2. **Thesis:** write a coherent document about the research, present a public lecture and present an oral defense to graduate committee. Most of our PhD theses are ‘paper’ theses, where it is expected a total of 3 substantial peer-review journal article publications. We expect that two are accepted or already published and the third one submitted or close to being submitted.

**Comments:** If a student has gone through our MS program, we expect that they will typically take 3 years beyond the MS to complete the PhD, though this can vary.